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PATENT

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October 16, 2001

Kristine Houston

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

OCT 24 2001

Technology Center 2600

Applicants : Massimo Mancuso et al.

Application No. : 09/087,671

Filed : May 29, 1998

For : POST-PROCESSING METHOD FOR REDUCING ARTIFACTS IN
BLOCK-CODED DIGITAL IMAGES, AND POST-PROCESSING
DEVICE FOR ACTUATING SUCH METHOD

Examiner : Cheukfan Lee

Art Unit : 2622

Docket No. : 853063.450

Date : October 16, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents:

In response to the Office Action dated June 19, 2001, please extend the period of time for response two months, to expire on October 19, 2001. Enclosed are a Petition for an Extension of Time and the requisite fee. Please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please amend claim 11 to read as follows.

11. (Amended) The method according to claim 10 wherein said step d2) provides for determining degrees of membership of each horizontal Sobel operator output of the horizontal pattern to a first fuzzy set "Small" and to a first fuzzy set "Big", evaluating activation degrees of a first set of fuzzy rules each associated with at least one predefined horizontal pattern of horizontal Sobel operator outputs, determining degrees of membership of each vertical Sobel

1 29